

Appendix D

Restoration Project Proposal Format

Lower Fox River and Green Bay Restoration Project Proposal

Date Submitted: Self explanatory.

Project Title: The project title should be descriptive of the goal to be accomplished by the restoration project.

Group Submitting Proposal: Name the group or individuals submitting the restoration project proposal. Include name of project coordinator, address, telephone and facsimile number and E-mail address. Also describe the qualifications of the cooperators and/or implementors of the project that demonstrate their ability to complete the proposed tasks and manage the project.

Amount of Request: Total amount of funding requested. The specific project budget will be outlined later in the proposal.

Location: Describe the location of the project (state, county, section, township, range, city/municipality, address, etc.), and include a map showing the location of the project. Projects must be in the restoration area outlined in the Co-trustees proposed action.

Geographic priorities are as follows: highest priority, the 39 miles of the Lower Fox River, adjacent floodplain and ecologically associated uplands, second priority, Green Bay and adjacent coastal wetlands, third priority, tributaries to Lower Fox River and Green Bay up to the headwaters including adjacent floodplains and ecologically associated uplands, and lowest priority, watersheds adjacent to the river systems in the first three priorities.

Restoration Project Category: Designate which restoration project category from the Co-trustees proposed action the project best fits within; 1) Wetland and Associated Upland Habitat Preservation, Reestablishment or Enhancement Projects, 2) Fishery Resource Enhancement Projects, 3) Aquatic and Near-shore Habitat Quality Improvement Projects, or 4) Natural Resource-Based Public Use Enhancement Projects.

Project Description: Briefly describe the project, including goals, and objectives. If Lower Fox River and Green Bay settlement dollars will be used to fund a portion of a larger project where funds are coming from multiple sources (cost sharing), describe the entire project and specifically the portion of the project that will be accomplished with Lower Fox River and Green Bay settlement funding. Also, please state that the proposed project will be cost shared with funds from other sources.

Describe how the restoration project will restore, rehabilitate, replace and/or acquire the equivalent of the natural resources injured by the release of PCBs into the environment. Describe the specific habitats, wetland types, or vegetation types and quantities to be protected, reestablished or enhanced if applicable. Include a site map showing the habitats before and after completion of the project.

If land is to be acquired through fee title or conservation easement, describe ownership and management of the land. Address what types of construction and activities that will take place on the property, if any. Also, describe the surrounding land use. Adjacent property use (either current or future planned uses) should not detract from effectiveness of the restoration site for wildlife. Acquisition projects that are selected will require a management plan. The management plan will detail methods for permanent protection and enhancement of injured resources.

Include a description of the size of the project. The size of a habitat area is a major influence on fish and wildlife species diversity and population density. Other things equal, larger areas support more species and higher numbers of individuals per unit area than smaller habitat areas. Ranking will reflect an advantage to those sites which can demonstrate larger areas of permanently protected habitat for natural resources. If the restoration project is contiguous with currently protected habitat provide details on this habitat.

Maintenance Requirements: Address any maintenance requirements including frequency and costs (also show costs under Proposed Budget section). Restoration projects that are self-sustaining, or which require minimal annual maintenance are preferred. Projects that require high annual maintenance costs will need to have those maintenance costs funded through outside sources; only a small portion of the settlement will be available for annual maintenance.

Compliance with Applicable Laws & Regulations: Implementation of the restoration project must be consistent with applicable Federal, State, Tribal, and local laws, ordinances and policies. Address what laws, ordinances, zoning restrictions, policies or regulations that apply to the project. Example: Will a 404 permit be required? Are there federally-listed threatened or endangered species occupying the site and is an Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation needed? Describe what measures would be taken to secure required permits, who will obtain them and what obstacles may delay the attainment of the permits, if any.

In regards to compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act please include copies of topographic and Platt maps that distinctly outline the project area. Indicate if there are buildings on the property in the proposal and show where they are located on the map. If the age of the buildings is known, please include this information in the proposal.

Once a proposed project is selected to be funded by the Trustee Council, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Restoration Coordinator will consult with the appropriate Historic Preservation Officer (HPO) for the purpose of identifying cultural resources and requesting a determination of no historic properties or no effect on historic properties if appropriate. The HPO is allowed 30 calendar days to respond to the request and make a determination. The Restoration Coordinator will also notify appropriate Indian tribes and public about the proposed project. If there are cultural resources or properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or adverse effects determined and mitigation needed, the proposed project start date will need to be postponed until National Historic Preservation Act issues are resolved.

Timeline: Outline the estimated time and steps or phases needed to complete the project including an estimated completion date. Estimate how long the project will take to reach its full potential for fish and wildlife. Relative timeliness of the resource recovery action will be evaluated. The restoration project should make a significant contribution to restoration of natural resources injured without a protracted implementation or resource recovery period. Implementation times of less than 5 years are preferred. Projects with implementation times greater than 5 years will receive lowest consideration.

In this section also address the longevity of the restoration project. Projects that provide restoration in perpetuity will receive a higher priority than projects that expire within a defined time period, or require annual or periodic renewal. Explain how the project will provide restoration in perpetuity such as conservation easements, cooperative agreements, or other legal means to guarantee perpetual management for the trust resources on behalf of the public.

Proposed Budget: Provide a detailed budget for the funding requested in descriptive summary categories such as personnel, materials, realty costs, etc. Proposals stating only a total cost with no budget breakdown will not be considered further. Include information pertaining to any types of cost sharing, such as other funding sources or in-kind services that will add to the restoration project. Restoration projects supported in part from sources other than the Lower Fox River and Green Bay settlement funds are preferred to projects supported solely by these restoration dollars. Cooperative projects, with matching dollars and services tied to activities that are compatible with the goals of this restoration plan, have a high potential to meet community needs while restoring trust resources. Although Lower Fox River and Green Bay settlement funds will not be expended on projects more appropriately funded from other sources, where compatible projects adjoin, funding from several sources could provide much greater benefits to impacted resources than many small, scattered projects. Projects should not duplicate or substitute for traditional funding sources.

The goal of the Co-trustees will be to achieve the maximum amount of restoration (in terms of acres, habitat units, or fish and wildlife) with the least expenditure. Cost-effective return is desirable and cost overruns will necessarily be covered by cooperating entities. This also addresses the Technical Feasibility criteria listed under CERCLA and the NRDA regulations, because project costs must fall within the budget in order to be technically feasible. Those projects which demonstrate ability to achieve relatively larger amounts of restoration will be favored.

Project Benefits: Describe how the restoration project benefits natural resources or the uses of those resources injured by the release of PCBs into the Lower Fox River and Green Bay environment. Projects will be evaluated in terms of whether the benefits can be quantified and the success of the project determined.

Measures of Success: Outline and describe the measures or steps to evaluate the success and the effectiveness of the restoration project. The measures of success should be related to the goals

and objectives of the proposed project. The plan should include performance standards for all phases of the restoration project and describe how the project will be certified as complete and a success. The success, viability and sustainability of the restoration project should be able to be documented at completion.